



News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1406 Longworth House Office Building • Washington, D.C. 20515 • (202) 225-5506

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 5, 2005

Contact: Stephanie Lundberg
Phone: 202-225-5506

Rep. Kind Will Visit Iraq Before Constitutional Referendum

Trip will include troop updates, security status reports & budgetary briefings

Washington, DC –U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) will go to Iraq during the second week of October with a bipartisan Congressional delegation (CODEL) in what will be the final visit by U.S. lawmakers before the October 15th referendum on a new Iraqi constitution. The purpose of the trip is to survey current military and reconstruction operations, including the training of Iraqi security forces, troop safety and morale, the spending of reconstruction funds, as well as to witness first-hand preparations for the constitutional referendum. Kind will represent the House Budget Committee on the trip and will focus his fact-finding on fiscal issues.

“Our brave men and women in uniform are continuing to do a tremendous job under difficult and dangerous circumstances to combat the insurgency and help Iraqis prepare to take the next step towards achieving a stable democratic government,” stated Rep. Kind. “Since so much is being asked of our troops and their families, it is necessary to regularly examine progress and assess what more needs to be done to help them safely complete their mission and expedite their return home.”

This is the third CODEL trip Rep. Kind has taken to Iraq since military operations began in March of 2003; his first trip occurring in October of 2003 and the second trip in October of 2004.

Rep. Kind will host a telephone call with reporters on Friday, October 7, 2005 from 9:00 to 9:30 p.m. cst. Call-in information will be sent shortly. Rep. Kind will also make an effort to conduct a press conference call from Iraq on the morning of Monday, October 10; those details to be arranged and announced in the next few days. Due to security concerns the travel itinerary is unavailable.